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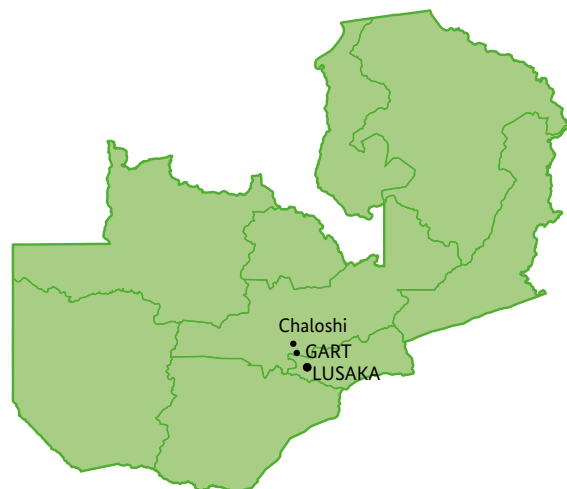
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## Zambia: Agricultural Training and Knowledge Centre

Bilateral cooperation project

## The Project

Through its bilateral cooperation project, the BMEL is supporting the development of the Zambia-German Agricultural Knowledge and Training Centre – AKTC, since 2014.

Many Zambian farmers are currently unable to exploit their development potential due to inadequate technologies and lack of technical and business knowledge. The AKTC addresses these potentials and challenges: it provides knowledge on the use of modern agricultural technology, inputs and good farm management for sustainable increases in cereal, soybean and potato production while – at the same time – protecting natural resources.

The activities of the AKTC are, thus, well linked to the objectives of the Zambian new National Agricultural Policy: increased agricultural production and productivity, strengthened capacities of agricultural training institutions and the promotion of a sustainable use of land and other natural resources.

In the second project phase, the project aims to create a broader impact (e.g. through nationwide educational institutions and the national advisory service) through the intensive involvement of lecturers, state agricultural advisers and other multipliers in the training activities.



## Project Objectives and Areas of Activities



The center offers a mix of practical training and demonstrations on sustainable production methods and the professional use of agricultural machinery for agricultural specialists and agricultural service providers. Through these activities, the project aims to increase technical and managerial skills of the target groups and contribute to the sustainable development and modernization of the Zambian agriculture.

The Zambian Ministry of Agriculture emphasizes the importance of a competitive agricultural sector and increased yields through mechanization. It has therefore expressed interest to collaborate with the AKTC in the training of its agricultural advisors in agricultural technology. The government gives particular importance to knowledge transfer regarding soil conservation methods (“conservation agriculture”) through the AKTC. The activities of the project will be closely linked to the plans and activities of the Zambian agricultural development strategies in order to ensure a high degree of acceptance and support of the Zambian partners.

### Target Groups

- market-oriented farmers, professionals and managers from the Zambian agricultural sector (plant production)
- teachers and instructors of educational institutions (Universities, Colleges, Farmers' Schools)
- advisors from the State Advisory Service
- scientists and representatives of associations
- students from Zambian agricultural educational institutions

## Project Partners and Cooperations

The project partner of the German Federal Ministry of Food and Agriculture (BMEL) is the Zambian Ministry of Agriculture (MoA). Operational partners on the Zambian side are the Zambia National Farmers' Union (ZNFU) and the Golden Valley Agricultural Research Trust (GART).

The project is jointly implemented by the consortium members AFC Agriculture & Finance Consultants GmbH / DLG International GmbH / IAK Agrar Consulting GmbH / DEULA Nienburg in a close cooperation. The location of the AKTC on the premises of the Golden Valley Agricultural Research Trust (GART), approx. 60 km north of Lusaka, facilitates an intensive cooperation with the national operational project partners.

Business Partners from the agricultural machinery, plant protection and plant breeding sector contribute with machinery, inputs and knowledge exchange to the project.



In addition to the cooperation with the above mentioned partners, a close cooperation exists with national agricultural education institutions, such as the agricultural faculty of the University of Zambia (UNZA) and the Natural Resource Development College (NRDC).